

**Minutes of NZMPTA Council Meeting
18th March 2025 @ 9.00am
Noble 600, Burnett St, Ashburton**

Present: Les Sinclair, Craig Burrows, Marty Bloy, Gary Reilly, Trevor Fowlie, Craig Russell, Danny Simmonds, Gareth Cowan & Executive Officer (E.O), Maria Scott.

Apologies: Darren Main, Nick Bell, Sam Anderson & Trevor Foley

Minutes of Previous Meeting: Accepted as a true and correct record.

Matters Arising from Previous Minutes: Training Centric have provided an explanation to their increased pricing and this has been accepted by Council.

Financial Statement: presented and accepted. Approx. combined net position \$184,648. This is allowing for 2025 Membership & AutoRep licences much of which is still to come in. The 2024 annual accounts were discussed and there is concern that we have made a loss of around \$26k in each of the past 2 years. This is mainly due to micro-credential costs and increased facilitator costs. Will raise discussion re increasing annual Membership fees at the AGM.

Accounts for Payment: Accounts paid since last meeting and accounts received but yet to be paid were tabled and approved.

New Members: Aqua Works

Withdrawn Members: Think Water Hawkes Bay.

Practising Certificate Approvals:

Luther Siemelink, Independent Tester. Hylton Pene, Rakaia Dairy Services. Zane McCall, 60/40 Milking. Mark Cameron, Ngatea Milking Machines. Cameron Ogle, Milking & Water Systems. Geoff Shaw, GS Dairy Services. Garry Box, Boxy's Milking Machine Testing. Sean Hayes, Hayes Farm Services. Murray Lind, All Ag Services. Simon Mitchell, Thinkwater Taupo. Sam Houston, Read Industrial. Nigel Hannay, Qubik. Les Sinclair, Spring Meadow Services. Shaun Dyer, Dairymaster NZ.

Resignation of Council Member: Nick Bell has resigned from Council for the coming term

H & S: Nothing to report.

Training Activity: 9 pax on March Testing course and 8 for the April course. Ran a Milk Quality course for Deosan in CHC with 6 pax. 10 pax on Farm Dairy Systems Management in INV in January. Additional courses are being run for Members 43 South (Small Drinking Water Supplies) with 8 participants, and a course for 10 Fonterra Milk Quality Managers.

Apprenticeship update: Currently around 61 active apprentices and 30 have completed.

Micro-credential Development: The SDWS & Machine Testing mirco-credential applications have been submitted to NZQA. The FDSM mirco-credential has had a re-write of the learning outcomes and of each module. It is currently with the WDC to confirm before being submitted to NZQA. M-C development costs (excl. GST) paid to date are \$12,833 for the SDWS, \$12,333 for MMTc & \$13,333 for Farm Dairy Systems Mgmt.

Farm Dairy Assessment: Further discussions around faults found during a machine test and how these should be ranked & worded. D Simmonds from Fonterra will provide guidelines around requirements for reporting critical / major / minor faults identified on the Machine Test Summary and the wording / guidance to Testers for what needs to be said on the report. A TechNote will accompany this. Proof that faults have been rectified should be stated on the Test Summary page or in writing by the Tester. Sub-committee of D Simmonds, G Cowan, T Fowlie, C Burrows, L Sinclair, D Main & G Reilly will sign-off on the guidelines & wording.

Plumbers Act Restrictions: PGDB have come back to us following discussions at their own Borad Meeting. Although they are supportive of the cause, we need to push via MBIE level to get changes made. Deborah Prus-Loughlin will address this with her MBIE contacts and provide feedback.

Effluent WOF Assessor Programme: Have finally had a response from DairyNZ on this and they have responded to our questions. They state *'A number of outstanding issues still need to be worked through, including how resources are approved, co-funding, our developer time to upgrade or maintain resources, and overall ownership of the program.'* DairyNZ will progress through this & come back to us with further response and propose that we then meet to discuss further.

The Future MPTA: The survey to MPTA Members provided some feedback on where Members would like us to be – mainly around allowing limited plumbing & electrical works, and more pumping / water focussed training. Council discussed the need to boost the awareness of MPTA and what we represent and how we can better serve our Members around training & advocacy. We need to tell a better story of who we are, what we do for our Members and the industry. Will mostly need to engage a marketing professional to re-birth the image of MPTA. D Simmonds suggested we may be able to use one of the Fonterra Graduates to assist us with this and he will investigate this.

Water Industry Certificate of Recognition: We have received 223 people have attempted the application process with 94 having completed – certificates are being issued.

Stray Voltage: Maurice Coates from Sema Ltd has raised concerns about SNZ HB 6117:2014 Electrical installations in dairy sheds being published and the increasing incidence of their controllers being removed and replaced by another brand (almost always Danfoss, which he assumes are provided by AMC). We will support in Maurice in challenging the standards if necessary.

Skills Based Water Treatment course: Members surveyed indicated some interest in this training. This potential course has a far wider scope than just our Members. No decision was made to progress with this at this stage or not – full content & the financial cost needs to be considered.

AS/NZS 4024:2019 Safety of Machinery Standards: Trevor Fowlie will take over from Darren Main as our representative on this group.

Meeting concluded: 1.50pm

Signed  Gary Reilly, President.